

SITUATION REPORT NO. 10
INCIDENT NO. 98-001
DATE: July 24, 1998 TIME: 12:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Devils Lake Basin and eastern North Dakota flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: Devils Lake at Creel Bay measured 1,444.57 feet on July 24, dropping 0.06 feet during a three-day period.

A tornado struck a farmstead in Ransom County on July 18, destroying five barns and one silo and killing farm animals. A steel bin on a vacant farm was damaged. A hayfield and cornfield also sustained damages. The tornado scattered debris over a one-mile area.

Results of a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for Individual Assistance indicated that, in Cass County, 220 homes were affected by water-related problems, but were habitable, and one sustained minor damage. In LaMoure County, inspectors determined 50 homes were affected but habitable, and five homes sustained minor damage. In Walsh County, 150 homes were affected but habitable, four sustained minor damage, and one had major damage. Twenty of these Walsh County homes experienced septic system problems, ranging from slow drainage to daily pumping.

Inspectors conducting a PDA for Public Assistance found \$840,000 in eligible damages to public infrastructure in Cass County, \$210,000 in LaMoure County, and \$152,165 in Walsh County.

Agricultural officials report that a July 18 storm with hail and high winds caused crop damages in Griggs and Richland County. In Griggs County, farmers report an 80 percent yield loss on 5,980 acres of dry beans, wheat, barley, sunflower, corn and field peas. In Richland County, yield losses for 52,000 acres included 20 to 30 percent for wheat, 10 percent for soybeans, 40 percent for corn and 5 percent for sugarbeets. Approximately seven farm structures sustained a total of \$200,000 in damages. A July 20 hailstorm in Rolette County caused a 100 percent yield loss for 4,500 acres of canola and wheat.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: Neighbors and friends have been helping a Ransom County farm family to retrieve belongings scattered during the July 18 tornado event.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: North Dakota Emergency Management received notification from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on July 21 that FEMA-1220-DR has been amended to include Individual Assistance for the 13 declared North Dakota counties and two Indian Reservations. Recent heavy rainfall, high water table, hailstorms and high winds have compounded flood-related problems in the disaster area. These conditions are contributing to substantial real and personal property loss. Maj. Gen. Keith D. Bjerke, the State Coordinating Officer, requested implementation of Individual Assistance Programs to include: Disaster Housing; Disaster Unemployment Assistance; Crisis Counseling and the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Disaster Loan Program. The State Coordinating Officer is implementing the Individual and Family Grant Program (IFGP). Applicants for assistance register by calling FEMA's teleregistration at (800) 462-9029. Questions about the Individual Assistance Programs should be directed to the FEMA Helpline, (800) 362-9029.

The State Coordinating Officer has requested that FEMA-1220-DR-ND be amended to include Cass, LaMoure and Walsh Counties. As indicated by the recent PDA, Cass, LaMoure and Walsh Counties have experienced the same flood-related problems as the 13 declared North Dakota counties and two Indian Reservations. North Dakota's recent trend toward heavy rainfall, high water tables, hail storms and high winds continues to aggravate old, as well as create new flood-related problems in these areas.

Inspector training for the Individual Assistance Program will be conducted July 25, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., at the Comfort Inn in Bismarck.

The State Coordinating Officer received notification from FEMA that the closing date for FEMA-1220-DR is July 18. The incident period began March 2.

The 13 declared counties and two Indian Reservations are eligible for SBA's physical disaster and economic injury loans. The SBA also made economic injury loans adjacent to the disaster area to include the following 16 counties: Bottineau; Cass; Cavalier; Eddy; Foster; Grand Forks; Griggs; Kidder; LaMoure; Logan; McHenry; McIntosh; Sheridan; Steele; Walsh; and Wells.

The Walsh County Highway Department has begun repairs on damaged streets in the communities of Adams and Forest River. The roads have broken up because of the high water table in the area.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: No change from previous reports.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director